

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. Reconsideration of the subject patent application in view of the present remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 23 and 26 are amended.

Claims 3, 5-8, 10-12, 14-19, and 21 are withdrawn

Claim 20 is cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claim 26 has been amended to comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Specifically, supports for the amended claim 26 are found in FIG. 33 which shows that one connection portion including the hinge fittings 215a and 219a and the rotating shaft 218a is connected to the feeding terminal 220a and that the other connection portion including the hinge fittings 215b and 219b and the rotating shaft 218b is connected to the feeding terminal 220b. Thus, the rejection as it applies to claim 26 should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 13 and 22-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shoji et al. (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2002/0169010; hereinafter "Shoji") in view of Schober (U.S. PATENT NO. 4,471,493). For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding the amended claim 1, neither Shoji nor Schober, alone or in combination, discloses, teaches or renders foreseeable at least two feeding portions, each feeding portion having one end electrically connected to the first antenna element **through each of the at least two connection portions**. Support for the amendment are found in FIG. 33 which shows two feeding terminals 220a and 220b, each feeding terminal having one end electrically connected to the metallic frame 214 (the first antenna element) through each of two connection portions (one connection portion including the hinge fittings 215a and 219a and the rotating shaft 218a and the other connection portion including the hinge fittings 215b and 219b and the rotating shaft 218b). Also, FIG. 35 shows three feeding terminals 220a, 220b and 220c, each feeding terminal being connected to the metallic frame 214 through three connection portions.

The Office action states that Shoji discloses at least two feeding portions (i.e., switching terminals 23a and 23b, fig. 12). However, each of the switching terminals 23a and 23b is not connected to the ground layer 10b' through each of at least two connection portions. Instead, according to fig. 12 of Shoji, both the switching terminals 23a and 23b are connected to the ground layer 10b' **through only one connection portion** (i.e., the flexible cable 9). There is no disclosure in Shoji that each of the at least two feeding portions is connected to the first antenna element through each of the at least two connection portions.

Schober is merely cited for a rotation shaft provided in the connection portion, and a dipole antenna. Schober is silent about the above feature that each of the at least two feeding portions is connected to the first antenna element through each of the at least two connection portions in the amended claim 1.

Accordingly, the combination of Shoji and Schober does not meet all of the limitations of claim 1. Therefore, the asserted combination of Shoji and Schober does not render claim 1 obvious. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection as it applies to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4, 9, 13 and 22-25 which are directly or indirectly dependent from claim 1 should also be allowable for at least the same reason.

In addition, regarding claim 26, neither Shoji nor Schober, alone or in combination, discloses, teaches or renders foreseeable that each of the at least two connection portions is connected to each of the at least two feeding portions, respectively. Schober does not disclose at least two connectors 18 (the alleged connection portion). There is no disclosure in Shoji that each of the two flexible cables 9 is connected to each of at least two feeding portions.

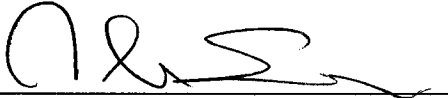
In consideration of the foregoing analysis, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Appln. No. 10/521,490
Amendment dated: May 3, 2010
Reply to Office Action dated March 3, 2010

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit
Account No. 16-0820, our Order No.: NGB-37395.

Respectfully submitted,

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